

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus on a textile fibre processing machine  
for inspecting and evaluating textile fibre material,  
5 the apparatus comprising an opto-electronic system for  
scanning the textile fibre material, there being  
relative movement between the opto-electronic device  
and the fibre material in a working direction and the  
fibre material having a working width extending  
10 transversely to said working direction, the opto-  
electronic system comprising two or more imaging  
devices which are displaced from one another across the  
working width of the fibre material and which are in  
communication with a common image-evaluation device.  
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2. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the  
opto-electronic system is stationarily arranged and, in  
use, the fibre material is moving along the working  
direction.  
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3. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which a  
multiplicity of imaging devices are provided laterally  
displaced from one another across the working width of  
the fibre material.  
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4. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the  
imaging devices are offset from one another in the

working direction.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which each imaging device comprises a camera module.

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6. An apparatus according to claim 5, in which each camera module consists essentially of an objective and a sensor.

10 7. An apparatus according to claim 6, in which further camera components are located remotely from said module.

8. An apparatus according to claim 7, in which said  
15 further components comprise one or more components selected from printed circuit boards, synchronizers, power supplies and devices for reading out the individual pixels.

20 9. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the imaging devices are connected to common evaluation device.

10. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which there  
25 are two or more intermediate evaluating devices, each intermediate evaluation device being in communication with a respective imaging device or group of imaging devices and the intermediate evaluating devices being

in communication with the common evaluation device.

11. An apparatus according to claim 1, which is  
suitable for maintaining a continuously moving body of  
5 sliver.

12. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the  
entire width of the fibre material can be monitored  
simultaneously.

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13. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the  
opto-electronic device comprises movable opto-  
electronic sensors.

15 14. An apparatus on a spinning machine, such as a  
carding machine, wool carding machine, cleaning machine  
or the like for inspecting and evaluating textile fibre  
material, in which across the width of a textile  
machine a fixed opto-electronic system, for example a  
20 camera, is provided, which scans the moving fibre  
material and converts the measured values into  
electronic signals, the system being in communication  
with an image-evaluating device (with computer) which  
evaluates the raw data of the camera, characterised in  
25 that two or more cameras are provided side by side and,  
in relation to the width, the number of cameras  
increases as distance between the image-recognition  
unit and textile fibre material decreases.

15. A textile fibre processing machine comprising at least one apparatus according to claim 1.

5 16. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 15, comprising first and second said apparatuses.

17. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 16, in which said first apparatus is arranged to  
10 monitor fibre material entering the machine.

18. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 16, in which said second apparatus is arranged to monitor fibre material emerging from said machine.

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19. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 16, in which data from said second apparatus can be compared with data from said first apparatus.

20 20. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 19, in which adjustment of components of the machine can be effected in dependence upon said comparison.

25 21. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 15, which is a carding machine.

22. A textile fibre processing machine according to

claim 21, in which the apparatus is arranged to monitor fibre that is being transported by a roller of the machine.

5 23. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 21, which comprises a said apparatus arranged to examine a fibre web in an outlet region of the machine.

24. A textile fibre processing machine according to  
10 claim 15, which is an opener and cleaner.

25. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 24, in which a said apparatus is arranged to monitor fibre that is being transported by a roller of  
15 the machine.

26. A textile fibre processing machine according to claim 15, in which a said apparatus is arranged to monitor waste separated from the fibre material.

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27. An apparatus for inspecting and evaluating a fibre material found in textile technology, for example, fibre bales, tufts, fleece or the like, in which moving sensors scan the  
25 stationary fibre material and the measured values are converted into electrical signals, the sensors being in communication with an image-evaluating device (with computer), which

evaluates the raw data of the sensors, wherein  
three or more opto-electronic sensors, for  
example, cameras, are provided side by side  
and, in relation to the unit of width, the  
5 number of cameras increases as the distance  
between the objective and fibre sliver  
decreases.